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Your Reference: HL74402/GK/par  
Application No: GB 0004282.0

2 August 2000

Dear Sirs

**Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17(5)**

I enclose two copies of my search report and a copy of the citations.

**Plurality of invention**

I consider that your application relates to more than one invention as follows:

**a Claim 1**

A wellbore casing, characterised by, a first tubular member and a second tubular member coupled to said first tubular member in an overlapping relationship, wherein the inner diameter of the first tubular member is substantially equal to the internal diameter of the second tubular member.

**b Claim 2**

A wellbore casing characterised by, a tubular member including at least one thin wall section and a thick wall section, and a compressible annular member coupled to each thin wall section.

**c Claim 3**

A method of forming a wellbore casing characterised by supporting a tubular liner and a mandrel in the borehole using a support member, pressurising an interior region of the mandrel, displacing a portion of the mandrel relative to the support member, and radially expanding the tubular member.

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<sup>†</sup>Use of E-mail: Please note that under patent law e-mail may be used to file correspondence only.  
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**d Claim 4**

A wellbore casing characterised by a first tubular member having a first internal diameter, a second tubular member having a second internal diameter substantially equal to the first inside diameter, coupled to the first tubular member in an overlapping relationship, wherein the first and second tubular members are coupled by the process of deforming a portion of the second tubular member into contact with a portion of the first tubular member.

**e Claim 5**

An apparatus for expanding a tubular member characterised by a support member including a fluid passage, a mandrel moveably coupled to the support member including an expansion cone, at least one pressure chamber defined by and positioned between the support member and mandrel fluidically coupled to the first fluid passage and one or more releasable supports coupled to the support member adapted to support the tubular member.

**f Claim 6**

An apparatus characterised by one or more solid tubular members, each solid tubular member including one or more external seals, one or more slotted tubular members coupled to the solid tubular members, and a shoe coupled to one of the slotted tubular members.

**g Claim 7**

A method of joining a second tubular member to a first tubular member, the first tubular member having an inner diameter greater than an outer diameter of the second tubular member, comprising positioning a mandrel within an interior region of the mandrel, and extruding at least a portion of the second tubular member off of the mandrel into engagement with the first tubular member.

My search report relates to the first invention only. If you want any of the other inventions searched, you should file a separate Patents Form 9/77 for each invention.

**Publication**

I estimate that, provided you have met all formal requirements, preparations for publication of your application will be completed soon after **5 September 2000**. You will then receive a letter informing you of completion and telling you the publication number and date of publication.

**Amendment/withdrawal**

If you wish to file amended claims for inclusion with the published application, or to withdraw the application to prevent publication, you must do so before the preparations for publication are completed. **No reminder will be issued.** If you write to the Office less than 3 weeks before the above completion date, please mark your letter prominently:



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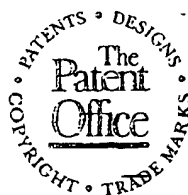
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**"URGENT - PUBLICATION IMMINENT".**

Yours faithfully

Peter Mason  
Examiner



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Application No: GB 0004282.0  
Claims searched: 1

Examiner: Peter Mason  
Date of search: 31 July 2000

## Patents Act 1977 Search Report under Section 17

### Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK Cl (Ed.R): E1F: FLA, FAC, FJR

Int Cl (Ed.7): E21B:

Other: Online: EPODOC, JAPIO, WPI

### Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
X,E	GB2344606 A SHELL (Whole document especially fig. 5)	1
X,E	US6070671 CUMMING ET AL. (See fig. 1)	1
X,E	WO99/35368 SHELL (See fig. 1 and fig. 4)	1
X	WO98/00626 SHELL (Whole document, especially fig. 1)	1
X	WO93/25799 SHELL (See page 3 line 13-22)	1
X	FR2741907 DRILLFLEX (See figs)	1

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

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